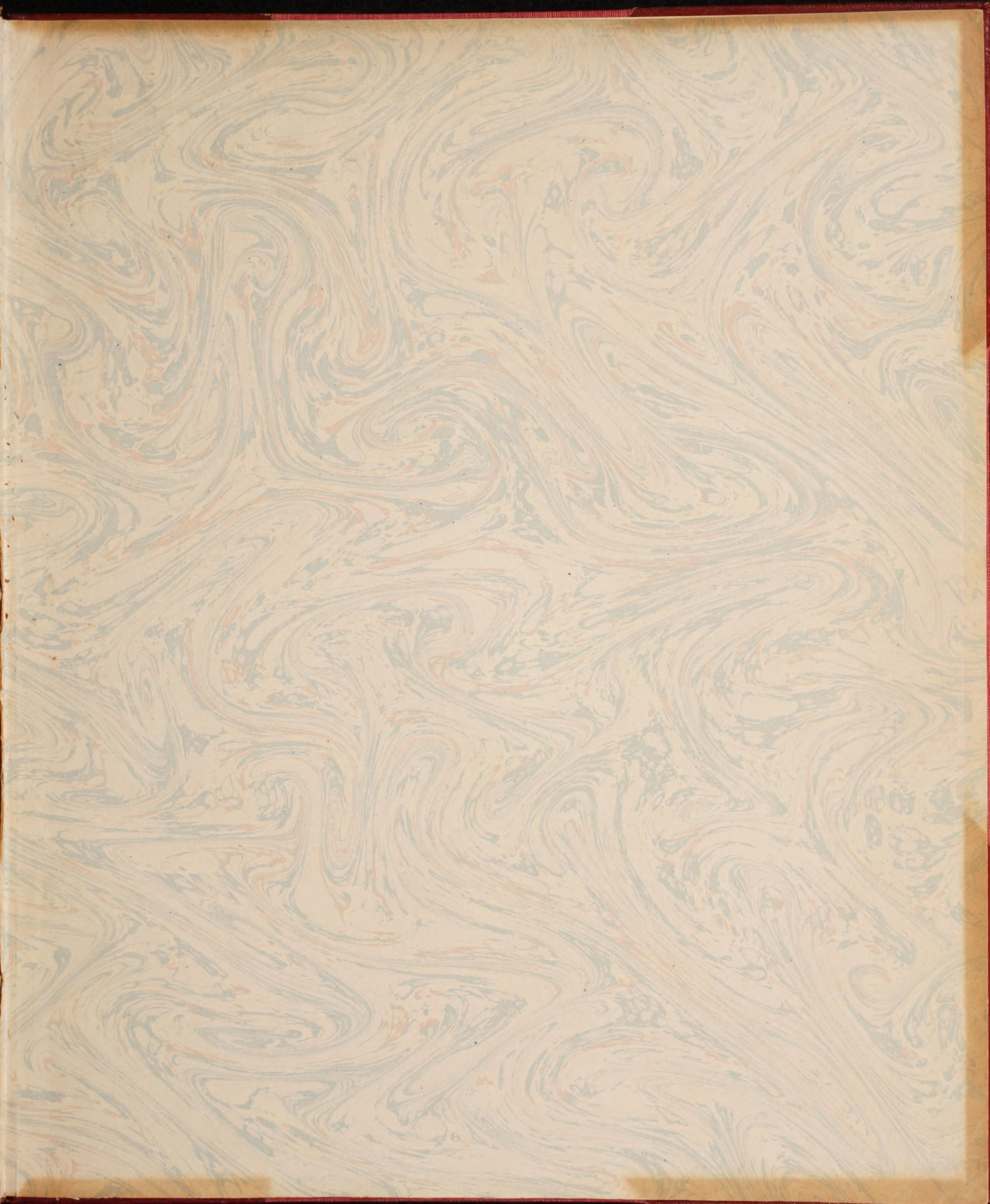


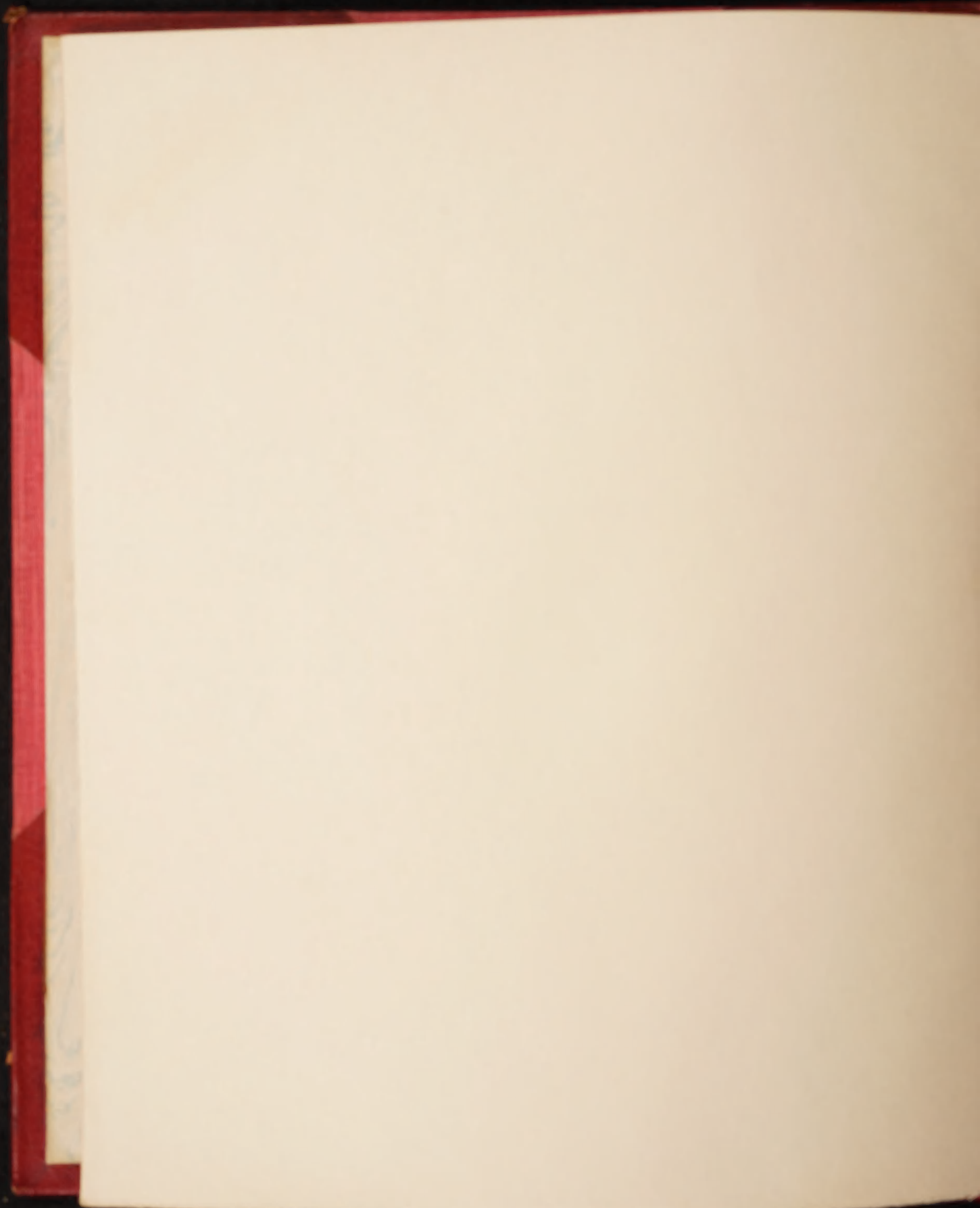


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THE  
**HISTORY**  
OF  
**Westminster School.**

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DEDICATED  
TO THE  
VERY REV. THE DEAN AND THE REV. THE PREBENDARIES  
OF THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER'S WESTMINSTER.

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THE HISTORY

OF THE

REPUBLIC OF THE UNITED STATES

The history of the United States is a subject of great interest and importance. It is a subject which has attracted the attention of the people of all nations. The history of the United States is a story of the growth and development of a great nation. It is a story of the struggles and triumphs of a people who have built a great and free country. The history of the United States is a story of the progress of civilization. It is a story of the achievements of a people who have made the world a better place. The history of the United States is a story of the power of the human spirit. It is a story of the courage and determination of a people who have overcome all obstacles and achieved greatness. The history of the United States is a story of the love of freedom and justice. It is a story of the sacrifice and heroism of a people who have fought for the principles of liberty and equality. The history of the United States is a story of the hope and faith of a people who have believed in a better future. It is a story of the dreams and aspirations of a people who have sought to make the world a more just and peaceful place. The history of the United States is a story of the strength and resilience of a people who have endured all hardships and emerged victorious. It is a story of the unity and solidarity of a people who have stood together in the face of adversity. The history of the United States is a story of the glory and honor of a people who have made a name for themselves in the annals of history. It is a story of the pride and patriotism of a people who love their country and are proud of its achievements. The history of the United States is a story of the wisdom and foresight of a people who have guided the nation through the darkest of times. It is a story of the leadership and vision of a people who have shaped the destiny of a great nation. The history of the United States is a story of the love and devotion of a people who have dedicated themselves to the service of their country. It is a story of the courage and bravery of a people who have fought for the freedom and happiness of all. The history of the United States is a story of the hope and faith of a people who have believed in a better future. It is a story of the dreams and aspirations of a people who have sought to make the world a more just and peaceful place. The history of the United States is a story of the strength and resilience of a people who have endured all hardships and emerged victorious. It is a story of the unity and solidarity of a people who have stood together in the face of adversity. The history of the United States is a story of the glory and honor of a people who have made a name for themselves in the annals of history. It is a story of the pride and patriotism of a people who love their country and are proud of its achievements. The history of the United States is a story of the wisdom and foresight of a people who have guided the nation through the darkest of times. It is a story of the leadership and vision of a people who have shaped the destiny of a great nation. The history of the United States is a story of the love and devotion of a people who have dedicated themselves to the service of their country. It is a story of the courage and bravery of a people who have fought for the freedom and happiness of all.

THE HISTORY  
OF  
**Westminster School.**

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THIS school, which ranks among the first establishments in the British empire for the instruction of youth, and has produced so many of those distinguished men, who have illumined the periods in which they lived, as divines and statesmen, as orators, poets, and philosophers, was founded by Queen Elizabeth in the year 1560.

Henry VIII. when he caused the monasteries to be dissolved, declared his determination to restore some of them under a new character, and on different foundations: he, accordingly, gave episcopal distinction to Westminster Abbey; and, on the 17th of December, in the year 1540, erected it by letters patent into a cathedral, with an establishment to consist of a bishop, a dean, and twelve prebendaries. Thomas Thirlby, then Dean of the King's Chapel, was appointed the Bishop, with the entire county of Middlesex, except the village of Fulham, for his diocese. The late abbot was appointed the Dean, the prior and five of the monks were made Prebendaries, four of them became minor Canons, and four were sent as students to the two Universities. The rest of the monastic confraternity were dismissed from their cloister with pensions, to discharge the functions of their character in pious seclusion or in parochial offices, as their different tempers or inclinations might dispose them.

In a short time after the foundation, the king endowed the bishopric with the abbot's house for a palace, and a revenue, taken from the estates of the dissolved abbey, amounting, according to Strype, to the annual value of eight hundred and four pounds; while the archives of the church, which Widmore, in his *History of Westminster Abbey*, considers as the best authority, settle it at no more than five hundred and eighty-six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence. The patent for the endowment of the dean and chapter was not granted till the 5th of August, 1542; when lands were assigned for this purpose from the estate of the late monastery, to the annual amount of two thousand one hundred and sixty-four pounds. The abbies of Evesham and Pershore in Worcestershire, Merton in Surry, Newstede in Nottinghamshire, Mountgrace in Yorkshire, Bardeney, Haverholme and Grimsby, both nuns and Austin friars, in Lincolnshire, were also called upon to contribute, to the yearly value of four hundred and thirty-four pounds. By this establishment the choir was formed on a more enlarged scale than it is at present. At the same time, the chapter was charged with the annual payment of four hundred pounds to ten readers or professors in Divinity, Law, Physic, Hebrew, and Greek, five in each of the Universities, and likewise with the stipends of twenty students in those places, amounting to one hundred and sixty-six pounds thirteen shillings and four-pence. In other parts of the new arrangement, particularly in the establishment of two masters and forty grammar-scholars, it was the same as the present foundation of Queen Elizabeth.

Ingulphus, in his *History of Croyland Abbey*, not only mentions that there was a school existing in this place in the time of Edward the Confessor, but that he himself received his education there; and that he was sometimes examined and had money given him by the queen, when, in his way from school, he called at the king's palace, where his father filled an employment.

William Fitz-Stephens, in his *Life of Thomas à Becket*, Archbishop of Can-

terbury, describing London, observes, that the three chief churches in the metropolis had schools attached to them, which Stow represents as being St. Paul's, Westminster Abbey, and St. Peter's Cornhill. All the great monastic institutions appear to have had schools belonging to their establishments, though it may be concluded, from the wretched state of learning among the clergy in the early periods of our history, that the objects of instruction in those seminaries were very confined, and, probably, went no farther than what was absolutely necessary to be known by the children of the respective choirs, and to prepare them for the inferior ministerial duties of their ceremonial offices.

It appears, however, from the latter part of the reign of Edward III. to the dissolution of the abbey, that a salary was paid by the almoner of the monastery to a schoolmaster, who, in the accounts of that officer, is described as "magister "scholarium, pro eruditione puerorum grammaticorum," and is evidently distinguished from the person appointed to teach singing to the choristers: though it will not surely be carrying conjecture too far, if it should be presumed, that their grammatical knowledge did not extend beyond the necessity of reading the Missal.

Widmore states, that in the archives of the church there is a draught of an instrument for the establishment of Henry VIII. by which it appears, that a school was settled here by him, under the same form which it now bears, and with the regulations that now govern it. The general draught of the charter is still extant; but that which particularly regarded the school, is not now to be found. Canterbury and Worcester derived the same advantages, as well as the greater part, if not all, of those places where the king had converted a monastic institution into that of a dean and chapter.

It appears, therefore, that Queen Elizabeth did little, if any thing, more than continue her royal father's appointment. That princess indeed caused a statute

to be made for the purpose of regulating the manner in which scholars were to be elected upon the foundation in this school, and from thence to colleges in Oxford and Cambridge, as well as the number to be removed annually to the Universities.

The Deans of Christ-Church, Oxford, and the Masters of Trinity College, Cambridge, successively combated this branch of her majesty's regulations, from some presumed advantages which would result to their respective colleges by the alteration they proposed; but they were obliged at length to submit, it being finally determined, that no innovation should take place against the express direction of the royal Foundress.

In the year 1544, the church consented to give up lands to the annual amount of one hundred and sixty-seven pounds, to be discharged from paying the stipends of the king's students; and, in 1546, certain additional estates of the yearly value of four hundred pounds, to be freed from the salaries of the professors. A part of the latter was given to Trinity College, Cambridge, and the rest to Christ-Church, Oxford.

Westminster retained its episcopal character but a short period, as it was suppressed by Edward VI. in the third year of his reign. On the 29th of March, 1550, Bishop Thirlby surrendered his bishopric, in submission to the royal will, and the diocese was reunited to that of London. As this suppression took place by the king's letters patent, and no notice being taken in them of the dean and chapter, who had been established by Henry VIII. in the same charter with the bishopric, either as not involved in the suppression, or as annexed to the see of London, a doubt naturally arose concerning the legal nature of their canonical condition; and this doubtful circumstance occasioned an act of parliament to be passed, which constituted this church a cathedral in that diocese. Wood mentions that Alexander Nowell, formerly of Brazennose College, Oxford, did, in the reign of Edward VI. and perhaps before, teach school at Westminster, where he

zealously trained up the youth in Protestant principles; for which, in the following reign, Bonner would, to use Wood's phrase, have consigned him to the shambles, if he had not escaped beyond seas.

Edward VI. died July 6, 1553, and the church of Westminster soon felt the effects of that bigoted attachment to the Papal power which distinguished the persecuting reign of his successor, by whom it was restored to its monastic character, and subjected to the predominating power of the see of Rome. Cardinal Pole, who had been appointed to the legatine office, gave the new abbot possession, assumed the power of recomposing the chapter, and forming the regulations for its conduct, by his own delegated power, without requiring the royal assent to confirm it. In this re-establishment the school of Henry VIII. does not appear to have been continued in any form under the cardinal's administration.

Queen Mary died November 17, 1558, and the first parliament of Queen Elizabeth gave her all the religious houses which had been erected or restored by her royal sister, in their actual condition on the first day of the preceding October.

Westminster Abbey was now destined to undergo another change: it was re-suppressed as a monastery, and the queen re-established it as a new foundation, in the form of a collegiate church, which it still retains, and endowed it with all the lands which were possessed by the late abbots and its monks.

This foundation, as it has been already observed, was in a great measure the same as that of Henry VIII. It consisted of a dean and the same number of prebendaries, with *an upper and under master, and the same number of scholars*, which have continued without alteration to the moment when this page is written.

Dean Goodman, who was the second person elevated to the deanery of the church by Queen Elizabeth, appears to have been very zealous in promoting its interest. To avoid the ravages of the plague, which, in those times, frequently visited the metropolis, the dean, who also held the prebend of Chiswick, obtained

the privilege for his church of being the tenant in perpetuity of the prebendal estate; that it might be a place of refuge from any pestilential or epidemic disease, for the chapter, the masters of the school, and the scholars\*. It is, indeed, in his time that the *Chapter-Book* of the abbey first takes notice of the school, to which he seems to have paid the most serious attention. He brought the scholars into one spacious chamber, regulated the commons, and added to the accommodation of the masters. He had also some difference with the Deans of Christ-Church, Oxford, and the Masters of Trinity College, Cambridge, respecting the number of scholars to be elected from this school. It may be also reasonably supposed, that he influenced Cecil, then Lord High Treasurer to Queen Elizabeth, in the year 1594, to give a perpetual annuity of twenty marks, to be distributed among the scholars elected from hence to the two Universities.

Dr. Lancelot Andrews succeeded Dean Goodman, in his regard for the school as well as in the first station of the collegiate church on which it depends. Hacket, in his *Life of Bishop Williams*, and he may be supposed to be familiar with the subject, relates, that Dean Andrews paid an anxious attention to the improvement of the scholars; that he often supplied the place of the masters, by ordering their exercises to be brought to him; and that he never went to Chiswick without taking two of the scholars with him. It is also added, that he frequently sent for the uppermost boys, and employed entire evenings in their instruction, which he conducted in a manner replete with mildness and encouragement.

During the civil wars, a period by no means favourable to the advancement of learning, and particularly to those institutions which were attached to, and derived their support from, the church, the dean and prebendaries of Westminster were in general dispersed, and the school, it is to be supposed, shared the same

\* It is not known that the school was ever removed to Chiswick since the time of Dr. Busby. It is on record, that he resided there with some of the scholars in the year 1657.—LYSONS' *Middlesex*.

fate. Lambert Osbolstone, one of the prebendaries, is said, however, to have been an exception. Having been prosecuted in the Star Chamber by Archbishop Laud in the year 1638, he was thought a fit person to receive the favour and indulgence of the parliament, which might have been influenced by his suggestions and remonstrances, to shew that subsequent care to the deserted church which was manifested by both houses; who, by an ordinance dated November 18, 1645, consigned the government of it to a committee of eleven lords and twenty-two commoners. Among other general and specific regulations, this instrument contains the following clause:

“ And be it further ordained, that the said committee, or any seven or more of  
“ them, together with the Master of Trinity College in Cambridge, and the Mas-  
“ ter of the said school in Westminster, shall hereby have the like power to elect  
“ and chuse scholars into the said school, and thence into Trinity College in  
“ Cambridge aforesaid, and to Christ-Church in Oxon, as by the statutes of the  
“ said college of Westminster was invested in the Deans of Westminster and  
“ Christ-Church, and Masters of Trinity College and Westminster School afore-  
“ said: provided, nevertheless, when the said Dean or Master of Christ-Church  
“ aforesaid shall not be a delinquent to the parliament, his right to the election  
“ aforesaid, according to the said statutes, shall not hereby be impeached: and the  
“ said committee, or any seven or more of them, are hereby further authorized  
“ to place poor men in such alms-places belonging to the said collegiate church  
“ as shall from time to time become void.”

This protecting guardianship was further extended by an act passed in the House of Commons, in September, 1649, for the continuance and support of the school and almshouses of Westminster. It also orders, that the management of the college should be entrusted to fifty-six governors, of whom two or three alone were peers. The annual charge of the school, the almshouses, the weekly poor,

the preachers or lecturers, the maintenance of the buildings, &c. was computed to amount at this time to 1900*l*. The estates vested in these governors were particularly specified; and the church remained subject to the controul of this committee till the Restoration in 1660.

At that period, when Charles II. returned to take possession of his kingdom, the government and affairs of the nation soon resumed their former course and character, and a dean was restored to the collegiate church of Westminster in the person of the learned and excellent Dr. John Earle. The period while he enjoyed this station was very short, but it is represented as being zealously and unceasingly employed in advancing the prosperity of his church in all the various objects which it embraced. The school was not forgotten; indeed his care of the scholars forms one of the many subjects of merited eulogium which compose his epitaph. From that time the establishment has undergone no special alteration; and the account which will now be given from public authority, must be considered as a correct description of the school from the reign of Charles II. to that of George III.

This school is not endowed with lands and possessions specifically appropriated to its own maintenance, but is attached to the general foundation of the collegiate church of Westminster, as far as relates to the support of forty scholars. It is under the care of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, and conjointly with the Dean of Christ-Church, Oxford, and the Master of Trinity, Cambridge, respecting the election of scholars to their several colleges. The boys on the foundation are denominated King's Scholars, from the royalty of their founders, and are in a state of collegiate association. They sleep in the dormitory, have their dinner in the hall, and may have other meals if they chuse, which, from the inconvenience of the statutory hours, they seldom, if ever, claim. They are distinguished from the town-boys, who are very numerous, by a gown, cap, and college waistcoat, which are furnished by the college; but being of a coarse material,





it is customary to clothe themselves with others of a better fabric, but in the same fashion. For education and any particular accommodations, they pay as the town-boys. Eight of them are generally elected, at the end of the fourth year, to Christ-Church, Oxford, and Trinity College, Cambridge, according to an arrangement made by the Dean of the former and Master of the latter. They have studentships at Oxford, and scholarships at Cambridge. The former are worth from forty to sixty pounds per annum, but the latter are of small beneficial consideration.

The scholars are elected upon the foundation in the following manner, by which alone the election can be obtained: They propose themselves as candidates of the fourth and fifth and shell forms, and are left to contend with each other in Latin and Greek, and particularly in grammatical questions and speaking Latin. Two boys will challenge for five hours together in grammar questions; and, at the end of eight weeks of constant challenge, the eight boys at the head of the number are chosen according to vacancies; those who have presented themselves below the eight succeed according to the next vacancies, the Head-Master sitting as umpire. This contest occasions the situation of the king's scholars to be much sought after by the boys of all ranks and distinction; it becomes a ground-work of reputation, and incites a desire to obtain the election.

There are four boys, also, who are called Bishop's Boys; so denominated from their being established by Williams, Bishop of Lincoln. They are allowed a gratuitous education, and are distinguished by wearing a purple gown: they do not, however, live in the college, and have no other advantage except that already described, and an annual allowance, which is so small that it is not paid them while they are at school, but is suffered to accumulate till the period of their admission to St. John's College, Cambridge; when, with some additions, it amounts

to about twenty pounds a year for four years. These boys are nominated by the Dean and the Head-Master.

The expense of the school, as it relates to the forty foundation-boys or king's scholars, including the salaries of Masters, varies according to circumstances, but does not exceed 1200*l.* per annum. The collegiate salaries are 39*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* to the Upper, and 15*l.* to the Under-Master, with houses for their residence. What they receive individually from the scholars for instruction is a remuneration apart, with which the church has no concern. The annual payment to the Masters is different in different years. It is thirteen guineas the first year, which is the same for a town-boy or a king's scholar, ten guineas the next two years, and eight guineas the last year. The Assistant-Masters are not of collegiate institution, and are proportioned to the state of the school: their incomes also arise from the scholars\*.

*THE NAMES AND TIMES OF THE MASTERS OF WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.*

HEAD-MASTERS.

1540. John Adams.	1570. Francis Howlyn.
1543. Alexander Nowell.	1572. Edward Grant.
1555. Nicholas Udall.	1593. William Camden.
John Passey, at the latter end of Queen Mary's reign or the be- ginning of that of Queen Eli- zabeth, or between Nowell and Udall.	1599. Richard Ireland.
1563. John Randall.	1610. John Wilson.
1564. Thomas Browne.	1622. Lambert Osbolstone.
	1638. Richard Busby.
	1695. Thomas Knipe.
	1711. Robert Freind.
	1733. John Nicoll.

\* Report from the select committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the education, &c. &c. *pp.* 256, 445.

# WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

11

1753. William Markham.

1764. John Hinchcliffe.

Samuel Smith

1802. William Wingfield.

1803. William Cary.

1814. William Page.

## UNDER-MASTERS.

1540. Odnell Hayborne.

1551. Edward Cratford.

1556. Thomas Nott.

Richard Spencer.

1563. — Randall.

1564. Thomas Alleyn.

1568. John Prise.

1572. — Frobusher.

1573. John Grant.

1574. Thomas Atkinson.

1575. William Camden.

1593. — Middleton.

1610. Thomas Hardinge.

1626. William Pritchard.

1631. John Jordan.

1642. George Croyden.

1645. Thomas Vincent.

1656. Edward Bagshaw.

1658. Adam Littleton.

1661. William James.

1663. Thomas Knipe.

1695. Michael Maittaire.

1699. Robert Freind.

1711. George Tollett.

1714. John Nicoll.

1733. James Johnson.

1745. Peirson Lloyd.

1771. William Vincent.

1788. John Wingfield.

1802. William Page.

1814. Edward Ellis.

CAMDEN, BUSBY, and KNIPE were interred in the church of Westminster Abbey, and the following inscriptions on their monuments are the records of their fame.

On the western side of the south transept is the monument of WILLIAM CAMDEN. " He was the son of Sampson Camden, citizen and painter-stainer of London; was born in the Old Bailey, May 2, 1551; and received his education at Christ's Hospital and St. Paul's School. In 1566 he was sent to Magdalen

“ College, in Oxford, as a chorister, from whence he removed to Broadgate Hall,  
“ now Pembroke College, and in 1573 took his degree of Bachelor of Arts in that  
“ University. There his literary character and estimable qualities introduced him  
“ to the notice, gained him the favour, and secured to him the friendship of Dr.  
“ Goodman, Dean of this church, who encouraged him in his antiquarian pur-  
“ suits, and by whose favour he was appointed, in 1575, Second Master of West-  
“ minster School. In 1586 he published in Latin, *The History of the ancient Inha-*  
“ *bitants of Britain*, their origin, manners, and laws; a third edition of which work  
“ appeared in 1590, at which time he was presented to the prebend of Ilfracomb  
“ in the church of Salisbury, but without having taken holy orders, and he re-  
“ tained it till his death. In March, 1593, he became Head-Master of West-  
“ minster School; and in 1596 he was made Richmond Herald, and immediately  
“ after Clarencieux King at Arms. In the year 1600 he published his *Catalogue*  
“ *of the Monuments of Westminster Abbey*, and a new impression of his *Britannia*.  
“ In 1603 he published a collection of our ancient historians in Latin, and in the  
“ year following appeared his *Remains concerning Britain*, in quarto. In 1615 he  
“ printed his *Annals of Queen Elizabeth*. He died at Chiselhurst, in Kent, on  
“ Sunday, the 9th of November, 1623, aged seventy-four, from which place he  
“ was carried to his house in Westminster, and, after lying in state for some days,  
“ his remains were brought to this church, where they were interred with great  
“ solemnity; the heralds and many of the nobility assisting at the ceremonial:  
“ his funeral sermon was preached by Dr. Sutton, Prebendary of Westminster.  
“ He founded an History Professorship at Oxford, and bequeathed his books and  
“ papers to Sir Robert Cotton.”

The monument represents the bust of this learned man in the habit of his time, supported by a pedestal; but as it had become very much defaced, it was repaired at the expense of the University of Oxford, and this inscription added to it:

Qui fide antiquâ et operâ assidua  
 Britannicam antiquitatem  
 Indagavit.  
 Simplicitem innatam honestis  
 Studiis excoluit,  
 Animi solertiam candore illustravit,  
 GULIELMUS CAMDENUS ab Elizabetha R.  
 Ad regis armorum  
 Clarentii titulo, dignitatem  
 Evocatus.  
 Hic spe certâ resurgendi in Christo S. E.  
 Obiit anno Domini 1623, 9 Novembris,  
 Ætatis suæ 74.

The monument of Dr. BUSBY, that great scholar and celebrated instructor, appears against the wainscot of the choir, opposite the south transept, in the Abbey, and represents a recumbent figure of him in his clerical robes. The face was copied from a cast taken after his death. The inscription seems to be the object of his attention.

En infra positam  
 Qualis hominum oculis obversabatur  
 BUSBII imaginem!  
 Si eam  
 Quæ in animis altius insedit,  
 Ultra desideras;  
 Academiæ utriusque et fori lumina,  
 Aulæ, senatus atque ecclesiæ  
 Principes viros contemplare.  
 Cumque satam ab illo ingeniorum messem,  
 Tam variam, tamque uberem lustraveris,  
 Quantus is esset, qui severit, cogita.

Is certe erat

Qui insitam cuique à naturâ indolem

Et acutè perspexit,

Et exercuit commodè,

Et feliciter promovit.

Is erat

Qui adolescentium animos,

Ita docendo, finxit, aluitque,

Ut tam sapere discerent quam fari,

Dumque pueri instituebantur

Sensim succrescerent viri.

Quotquot illius disciplinâ penitus imbuti

In publicum prodire,

Tot adepta est monarchia

Tot ecclesia Anglicana

Propugnatores,

Fidos omnes plerosque strenuos.

Quæcunque demum sit fama,

SCHOLÆ WESTMONASTERIENSIS,

Quicquid inde ad homines fructus redundarît,

BUSBEIO maxime debetur,

Atque in omne porro ævum debebitur.

Tam utilem patriæ civem,

Multis annis opibusque florere voluit Deus.

Vicissim ille

Pietati promovendæ

Se et sua alacris devovit;

Pauperibus subvenire,

Literatos fovere,

Templa instaurare

Id illi erat divitiis frui:

Et hos in usus.

Quidquid non erogârat vivus,

Legavit moriens.

Scholæ Westmon. præfectus est 1640 Dec. 23.

Obiit 1695, April. 5.

In the south aisle is the monument of Dr. KNIPE, whose tablet, supported by pilasters, and crowned with a sepulchral urn, bears this inscription:

THOMAS KNIPE, S. T. P.

Hujusce Ecclesiæ Prebendarius,

In claustrorum parte huic marmori oppositâ

Reliquias suas jacere voluit,

Ubi uxorem ANNAM

Cum quinque ex eadem liberis tumulaverat.

In SCHOLA REGIA WESTMONASTERIENSI

Per quinquaginta annos,

Promovendæ pietati bonisque literis ellaboravit;

Per sedecim eidem Archidasculus præfuit:

Quam provinciam

Et egregiis doctrinæ subsidiis instructus,

Et indefessâ industriâ usus,

Et humanissimâ suavitate conditus,

Felicissimè administravit:

Et juvenes optimis disciplinis instructus

In utramque academiam emisit

Multos, qui ecclesiæ et reipublicæ

Ornamenta jam sunt,

Plures qui in eandem indies spem succrescunt.

His insuper laudibus

Cæteras quæ virum bonum commendant virtutes,

Sanctimoniam, liberalitatem,

Comitatem, benevolentiam,  
 Candorem, fidem,  
 Et propensam in egenos benignitatem addiderat;  
 Firmam valetudinem propectamque ætatem  
 Alienis omnino commodis impendit,  
 Donec ingruenti morbo paulatim cederet,  
 Quo pertinacius tandem urgente  
 Pauperibus, discipulis, amicis, nepotibus, conjugibus,  
 Desideratissimus obiit  
 8vo Idus Aug. anno Domini 1711, ætat. 73.

This brief History of Westminster School, whatever may be its imperfections, shall not be accused of ungrateful negligence by a mere nominal enrolment of Dr. VINCENT's name among the Masters of it. He was connected with the royal establishment as a scholar, a teacher, and finally as prebendary and dean of the collegiate church, with the exception of a few early years, through the whole course of his life: and when to such an interesting circumstance are added the rank he held in the world of learning, his character as a divine, and his virtues as a man; when it is considered how much this foundation of Queen Elizabeth is indebted to his care, example, and protection, these pages will be expected to offer a picture of his prolonged life and eminent endowments.

It would not be doing justice to Dr. Vincent's character, if, in this short account of him, application were not made to certain authorized notices which have been given of it. It would be something worse than affectation, not to acknowledge the aid which has been received from them, as it would be folly to attempt to do that better which has been done so well.

This learned, pious, and venerable man was most intimately connected with this establishment from the age of seven years to the day of his death, with the interval only of five years, while he pursued his academical studies. Passing through

every gradation in the school and collegiate foundation, he was thence elected scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1757. At the regular period he took his first degree in Arts, and was chosen a Fellow of his college; and soon after, in 1762, he returned to Westminster, as Usher or Assistant in the school. In that capacity, he proceeded from the lowest to the highest situation, so justly approved by the patrons of the school, that, on the resignation of Dr. Lloyd, the veteran Second Master, he was appointed to that office. In the same year he was nominated one of the Chaplains in ordinary to his Majesty.

The place of Second Master at Westminster School is a situation of much labour and responsibility. Besides the daily business of instruction, which, if not arduous, is at least fatiguing, the person who holds that office has the whole care and superintendence of the scholars on the foundation when out of school; that is, of forty boys, rapidly growing up into men, and annually removed, by elections of eight to ten, to the two Universities. Yet, amid these continual and weighty duties, he was prosecuting those studies which gradually established his reputation at home as a scholar and a man of research, and finally extended his celebrity over the continent of Europe.

In 1788 he became Head-Master of Westminster School; but his church preferments were very confined, till, in 1801, he obtained, what he had long desired and so well deserved, a prebendal stall in the collegiate church of Westminster, of which, in the following year, he was appointed Dean. He died on the 21st of December, 1815, having exceeded by rather more than a month his seventy-sixth year.

His more distinguished publications, the fruits of his learned, indefatigable, and persevering studies, must now be mentioned.—A small tract in quarto, published in 1793, marked him to the learned world as a diligent investigator of historical facts, and an acute verbal critic. This publication is entitled “De Legione Man-

“lianâ, Quæstio ex Livio desumpta, et Rei militaris Romanæ studiosis proposita.” Subjoined to it is what the author has termed, “An explanatory Translation in English.” To clear up this difficult passage in Livy, which had perplexed former commentators, Dr. Vincent exerted his critical sagacity, and with a success which was highly honourable to it. It is a sufficient testimony in favour of his interpretation, that it was approved by Heyne on the continent, and by Porson at home.

Two successive years produced two publications, which a long and careful study of the analysis of languages had well qualified him to present to the learned world. The first of these, entitled “The Origination of the Greek Verb, an Hypothesis,” appeared in 1794; and was followed, in 1795, by “The Greek Verb analyzed, an Hypothesis; in which the source and structure of the Greek language is considered.” The latter of these was principally a sequel to the first, and an extension of its theory. Sagacity and learning are eminently displayed in both these publications; nor is it easy to say which quality is most conspicuous in them. It is observable, that, in both these tracts, Dr. Vincent terms his doctrine only an *hypothesis*: a more presumptuous author would have called it a *discovery*: but it was not in his nature to assume a particle of merit to which he had not the most undoubted claim.

In 1797 he published his celebrated “Commentary on Arrian’s Voyage of Nearchus:” the fruit of long studious labour, superior acuteness of observation, and unwearied research. This learned and able work formed the principal basis of a reputation, which is not confined to his own country, as it will not be limited to his own age.

This work of consummate labour and ingenuity soon received due honour and praise from the learned of Britain and of Europe; and he continued to persevere with such unabating vigour, that the first part of “The Periplus of the Erythrean Sea” was published in 1800, three years after the *Nearchus*. The

second part of the *Periplus*, which completes the whole design, appeared in 1805, making a volume larger than the first. It is furnished with further dissertations, and an additional appendix of commercial articles; thus completing the knowledge of Oriental commerce and Oriental geography, as they existed among the ancients. In a subsequent edition the three publications already mentioned were formed into two handsome and uniform volumes, with the general title of "The Commerce and Navigation of the Ancients in the Indian Ocean." It was rendered as perfect as his labours and opportunities could make it; and more so than any author could have rendered it, who had not returned to the examination of every point with a perfect impartiality of mind, and his freedom from all bigotry to opinions previously assumed. A supplemental volume, however, still remained to complete this distinguished work, for the sake of adding the Greek text of Arrian's *Indica*, including the Journal of *Nearchus*, with that of the Pseudo-Arrian. To the former he added a free English translation, commencing at the eighteenth chapter, where the account of *Nearchus* begins, with a mere abstract of the preceding chapters, containing only general notices respecting India. Of the *Periplus* he gave also a complete and explanatory translation.

Soon after the publication of the first part of the *Periplus*, Dr. Vincent being then past sixty, and having been near forty years in his various situations in the school, he began to wish for retirement, and, indeed, he only waited for some addition to his income to enable him to do it in a way that prudence would dictate, and which he so richly deserved. The wished-for opportunity at length arrived, as Mr. Pitt then unexpectedly retiring from office, recommended him to his Majesty for a vacant stall in the church of Westminster, to which he was accordingly preferred. He now meditated his resignation of the school; but he was first to render an essential service, not only to Westminster but to every other public school in the kingdom.

In 1802 he published "A Defence of Public Education," addressed to the Bishop of Meath, in answer to a charge annexed to his lordship's discourse preached at the anniversary meeting of the charity children at St. Paul's. Dr. Rennel, Master of the Temple, in a sermon on the same but a previous occasion, remarked, in terms of unreserved disapprobation, on the prevailing neglect of religion in our public seminaries of education. This attack awakened the serious attention of Dr. Vincent, who, situated as he was at the head of such a school as Westminster, thought himself called upon to repel such an unmerited charge: but Dr. Rennel having made those concessions and explanations as were satisfactory to Dr. Vincent, all further observations were suspended. But this quiet interval proved but of short continuance, as the Bishop of Meath, in the sermon alluded to, thought proper to subjoin a note, in which he repeated Dr. Rennel's accusation, with some severe additions of his own, against public schools. The Head-Master of Westminster School was naturally aroused at this alarming accusation, unjust as he felt it to be, and unfounded as he immediately undertook to prove it. The publication became instantly popular, and in a very short time passed through three editions. This defence was conducted with such manly plainness, and, at the same time, with such becoming zeal for religion as well as for education, that its effect was irresistible. But the reverend author was far from anticipating the final advantage which he would derive from it. This publication attracted the attention of Lord Sidmouth, then Mr. Addington, and at the head of his Majesty's government, to the various merits and prolonged public services of the author, who, without the least previous notice or expectation, was appointed by his Majesty, on the minister's unsolicited recommendation, to succeed Bishop Horsley as Dean of Westminster. Thus he received his reward in the very place where he had so long deserved it.

His other works, whether they were the critical labours of his closet, or those





WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

*(and not to be confused with the school at Westminster, London.)*

admirable discourses which he delivered with so much energy and effect from the pulpit, or the more lively efforts of his fancy, all combined to give that celebrity to his name, which it will never lose while learning and virtue retain their just estimation in the world.

A tablet, placed between the monuments of Dr. South and Dr. Busby, is thus inscribed:

Hic requiescit  
 Quod mortale est  
 GULIELMI VINCENT,  
 Qui puer  
 Sub domus hujusce penetralibus  
 Enutritus,  
 Mox  
 Post studia academica confecta  
 Unde abiit reversus,  
 Atque ex imo præceptorum gradu  
 Summum adoptus,  
 Decanatu tandem hujusce Ecclesiæ  
 (Quam unicè dilexit)  
 Decoratus est.  
 Qualis fuerat vita studiis et moribus  
 Lapis sepulchralis taceat.  
 Natus Londini Novis secundo 1739. Denatus  
 Decembris 21<sup>mo</sup> 1815.

The COLLEGE HALL, which serves as a refectory for the king's scholars, was originally an apartment in the house of the abbot, and served that dignitary in a similar capacity. Nicolas Litlington, who succeeded Langham in the abbacy of this church, on the elevation of the latter to the see of Ely in 1362, built this

hall, the Jerusalem Chamber, part of the abbot's house, now the deanery; the bailiff's, the cellarer's, the infirmary's, and the sacrist's houses; the malt-house, afterwards used as a dormitory for the king's scholars, and the adjoining tower, which was once the apartment of the Second Master; the wall of the infirmary garden, and a water-mill, whose dam has been filled up. He also finished the south and west sides of the great cloisters. The site of the old hall was on the south side of the cloisters, the north wall of which is still remaining\*.

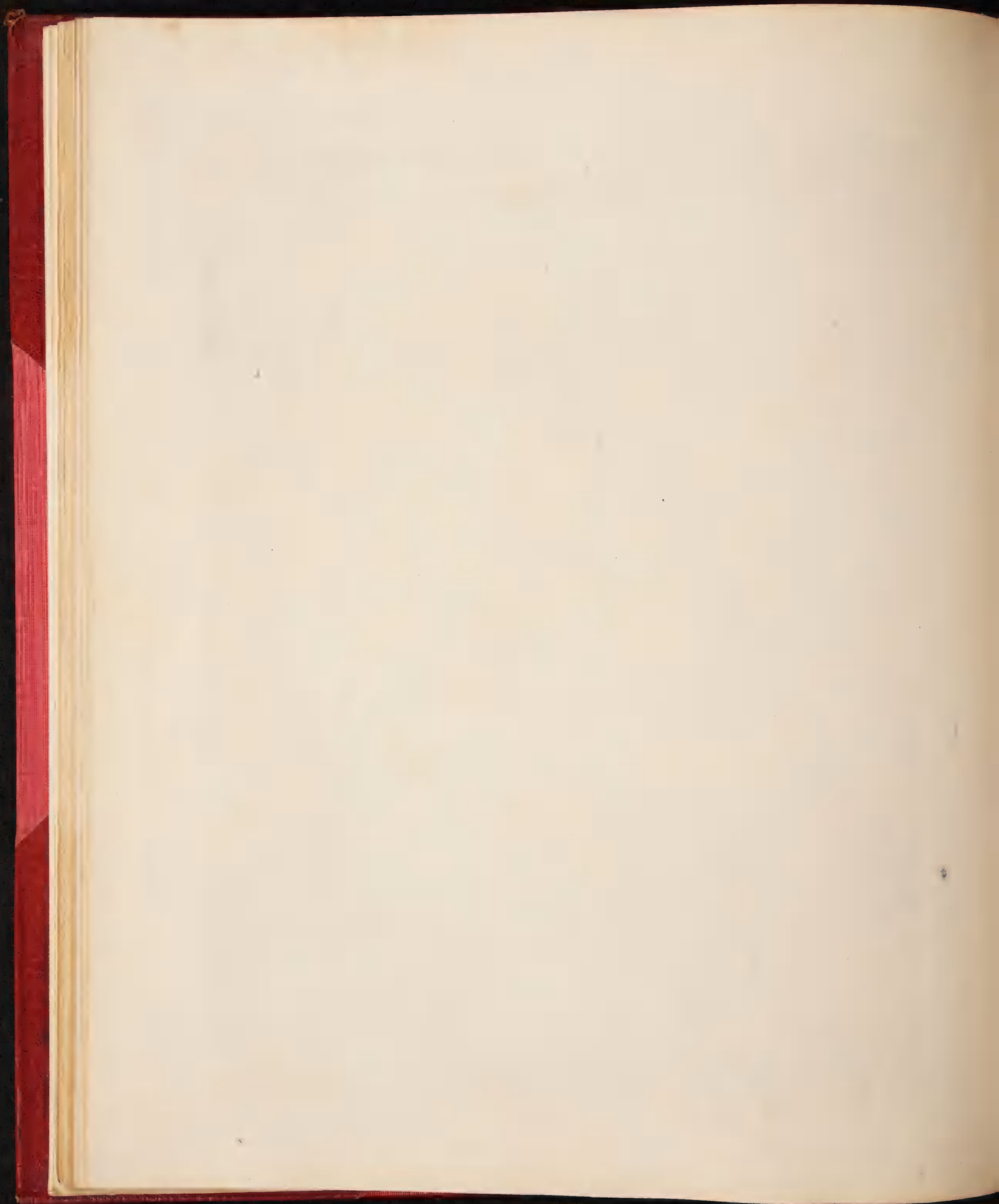
Over a door in the first arch, but without the cloisters, is a range of brackets which supported the roof of the ancient hall, and below them are pointed windows that lighted it; and it is by these vestiges that the length of the ancient refectory can be determined, which appears to have been that of the cloister. Through this door the monks passed to their meals; and in the arch on the left are four lance-shaped niches, supposed to have been used as a lavatory. The keen and penetrating eye of the antiquary discovers even the marks where the rollers for the towels were inserted in the walls.

The SCHOOL is a spacious room, duly arranged for the important purposes to which it has been so long and continues to be so happily employed. It ranges behind the lower end of the eastern cloister, and above some of the most ancient parts of the Abbey.

East of the passage leading to the school is a long ancient building, whose basement story is roofed with semicircular groined arches, rising from pillars with handsome capitals: at the north end the regalia is said to have been formerly kept. At the eastern termination of the division is a complete altar-table, raised on two steps, which, of late years, has been erroneously called the tomb of Hugolin, with a curious *piscina* on its right side. The double doors were closed and fastened by

\* Archives of the church.





## WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

23

seven locks, each lock a different key, and each key a different possessor. The upper story is used as the school-room\*.

\* See Letters very ingeniously written on the buildings of Westminster Abbey, signed AN ARCHITECT, in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of the year 1799.

The following verses are extracted from a poem in celebration of this seat of learning, inserted in the same miscellany for the year 1739. They profess to be written by a pupil of Dr. Freind's, during the mastership of that elegant and admirable scholar. If they do not altogether excite applause for brilliance of composition, they may perhaps gratify curiosity for accuracy of description.

- " Fast by, an old, but noble fabric stands,
- " No vulgar work, but raised by princely hands;
- " Which, grateful to Eliza's memory, pays,
- " In living monuments, an endless praise.
- " High, placed above, two royal Lions stand,
- " The certain sign of courage and command.
- " If to the right you then your steps pursue,
- " An honour'd room employs and charms your view.
- " There BUSBY'S awful picture decks the place,
- " Shining where once he shone a living grace.
- " Beneath the frame, in decent order placed,
- " The walls by various authors' works are graced.
- " Fix'd to the roof some curious laurels show
- " What they obtained who wrote the sheets below.
- " Fix'd to support the roof above, to brave,
- " To stem the tide of Time's impetuous wave,
- " Nine stately beams their spacious arches show,
- " And add a lustre to the school below.
- " Rank'd into seven, distinct the classes lie,
- " Which with the Pleiades in lustre vie.
- " Next to the door, the first and least appears,
- " Design'd for seeds of youth and tender years.

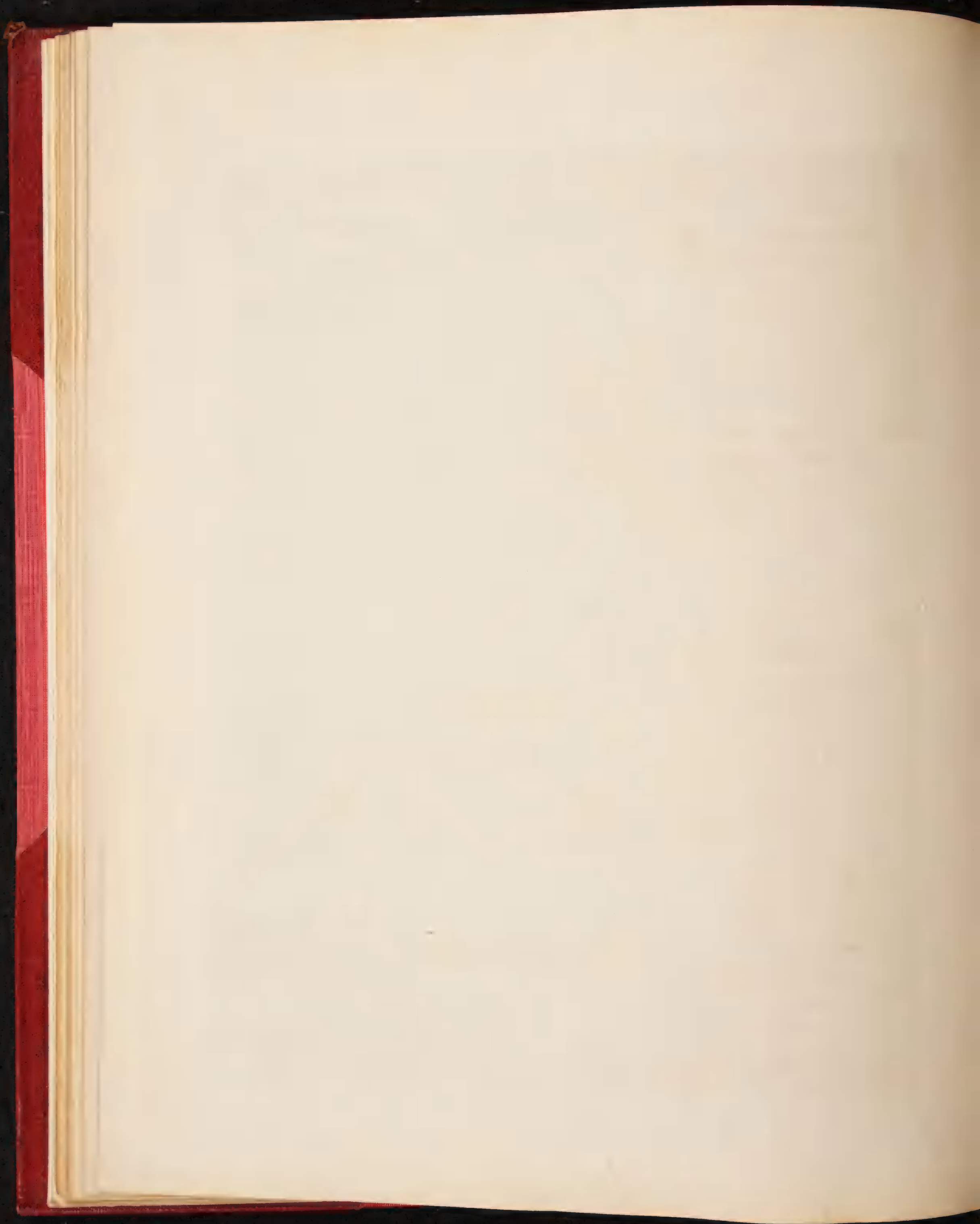
The DORMITORY is a spacious and elegant building, and was erected for the scholars on the foundation during the time when the celebrated Bishop Atterbury was Dean of Westminster. In the year 1703 Sir Edward Hannes, one of the physicians in ordinary to Queen Anne, as a mark of gratitude for the education which he received at this school, had left by his will a thousand pounds for that useful purpose. It was intended to raise this structure on the site of the ancient chamber, which was built about the year 1380, for the purpose of a granary when the place was a monastery, and had been erected on stone arches, of

- “ The second next your willing notice claims,  
 “ Her numbers more extensive, more her aims.  
 “ Thence, a step nearer to Parnassus’ height,  
 “ Look cross the school, the third employs your sight:  
 “ There Martial sings, there Justin’s works appear,  
 “ And banish’d Ovid finds protection there.  
 “ From Ovid’s tales transferr’d, the fourth pursues  
 “ Books more sublimely penn’d, more noble views:  
 “ Here Virgil shines; here youth is taught to speak  
 “ In different accents of the hoarser Greek.  
 “ Fifth: These better skill’d, and deeper read in Greek,  
 “ From various books can various beauties seek.  
 “ The sixth, in every learned classic skill’d,  
 “ With nobler thoughts and brighter notions fill’d,  
 “ From day to day with learned youth supplies  
 “ And honours both the Universities.  
 “ Near these the shell’s\* high concave walls appear,  
 “ Where FREIND in state sits pleasingly severe:  
 “ Him as our ruler and our king we own;  
 “ His rod his sceptre, and his chair his throne.”

\* A class so called.



LABORATORY OF WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.



sufficient strength to support any new edifice. Sir Edward Hannes' legacy, however, was not competent to meet the estimated expense; and Bishop Sprat, then dean, does not appear to have paid much attention to the business. But Atterbury revived the project, and entered, with his usual activity, into the execution of it.

For this purpose a memorial\* was presented by the chapter to George I. who gave a thousand pounds, to which the Prince of Wales, afterwards George II. added five hundred pounds. The parliament also voted twelve hundred pounds; and William Maurice, Esquire, gave five hundred pounds, at the time he had leave from the church to dispose of his place of High Bailiff of Westminster. The west side of the college garden was at length chosen as a better situation for the new building, though not without a strong opposition, as the prebendaries were divided in equal numbers as to the fitness of the place, which was finally deter-

\* "*A Memorial to his Majesty for building a new Dormitory for the King's Scholars, dated*  
*December 8, 1718.*

" The Bishop of Rochester, Dean of Westminster, and the chapter of that church, humbly  
 " represent to your Majesty, that Queen Elizabeth, of glorious memory, founded the College of  
 " Westminster, which has in all times since been highly favoured by your Majesty's royal ances-  
 " tors, and has bred up great numbers of men, useful both in church and state, among whom are  
 " several who have the honour to serve your Majesty in high stations: That the dormitory of the  
 " said college is in so ruinous a condition, that it must of necessity be forthwith rebuilt, the ex-  
 " pense of which building (besides other charges that may thereby be occasioned) will, according  
 " to the plan now humbly presented to your Majesty, amount to upwards of five thousand pounds.  
 " As a foundation for raising this sum, a legacy has been left by one who was a member of this  
 " college; and there is good reason to believe that divers persons of quality, who owe their educa-  
 " tion to this place, may be disposed to favour this design, if they shall be incited by your Majesty's  
 " royal example. The said bishop and chapter therefore humbly hope that your Majesty will, as  
 " an encouragement to learning, be pleased to bestow your royal bounty on this occasion, in such  
 " measure as to your Majesty's high wisdom shall seem proper."

mined, according to Widmore, by the House of Lords\*. The Earl of Burlington gave such a design as might be expected from his superior taste and judgment in a science which had formed the principal amusement of his honourable life: it offers an example of that simple and chaste style of architecture which never fails to please. That nobleman also engaged to superintend the works; the expense of which amounted to about five thousand pounds.

In this building the Latin plays are annually represented by the king's scholars, when a part of it is fitted up as a commodious theatre. The appropriate scenery, contrived under the direction of Mr. Garrick, was presented by a former Master of the school, Markham, the late Archbishop of York.

*Dean, JOHN IRELAND, D.D.*

*Head-Master, WILLIAM PAGE, D.D.*

*Under-Master, Rev. EDWARD ELLIS, M.A.*

*KING'S SCHOLARS NOW ON THE FOUNDATION.*

ADMITTED IN 1812.	Thomas Nelson Waterfield.	Thomas Charles Webber.
Robert Burr Bourne.	Perceval Hart Dyhe.	Thomas Henderson.
1813.	Carr John Glyn.	William Joseph Berens.
Edward Gater.	William Harrison.	John Jefferys.
Robert Glyn.	Richard Townsend.	1816.
Jonathan Trebeck.	Christopher Pemberton.	Egerton Vernon.
William Henry Hall.	1815.	John Elliott Drinkwater.
1814.	Thomas Littlehales.	Henry Vaux.
Charles Dodgson.	Robert Bisdoe.	Augustus Short.
Edward Richard Borough.	William Griesley.	John Edward Gray.
Hugh Anthony Rous.	William Archibald Home.	Francis White.
Mayow Short.	Charles Thomas Webb.	Robert Hussey.
Stephen Prescott White.	George Henry Webber.	Thomas Baber.
Richard Adolphus Musgrave.	Philip William Mure.	William Leader.
Cyril George Hutchinson.	Honoratus Leigh Thomas.	

\* *Hist. of Westminster Abbey.*

If the names of those eminent persons in every branch of learning, science, and public duty, who received their education within these walls, were to be an object of research, they would demand a larger space than this brief history could afford them; but Westminster will have no reason to be dissatisfied with the selection that is here offered to gratify the pride of its scholars.

Lord Burleigh:—King, Bishop of London:—the poet Cowley:—the poet Dryden:—Charles Montague, Earl of Halifax:—Dr. South:—Matthew Prior:—Rowe, the tragedian, &c.:—Hooper, Bishop of Bath and Wells:—Kennet, Bishop of Peterborough:—Dr. Freind, the physician:—King, Archbishop of Dublin:—the renowned J. Locke:—Atterbury, Bishop of Rochester:—Bourne, the Latin poet:—Hawkins Browne:—Boyle, Earl of Cork and Orrery:—Carteret, Earl of Granville:—the poet Churchill:—Bonnell Thornton:—Frank Nicholls, the physician and anatomist:—Gibbon, the historian:—George Colman the elder:—Markham, Archbishop of York:—the great lawyer, statesman, and orator, William Earl of Mansfield:—Clayton, Mordaunt Cracherode:—Richard Cumberland:—and the poet Cowper.

THE END OF THE HISTORY OF WESTMINSTER SCHOOL.

